

Glenn E. Schermer 1/30/04
(Signature) (Date of Signature)

SIR:

Applicants submit herewith a Petition For Extension of Time (3 Months), together with the requisite fees, in response to the Official Action dated July 30, 2003.

Applicants greatly appreciate the courtesies extended to their representative, Leland P. Schermer, by Examiner Timothy P. McAnulty and Supervisory Examiner David A. Bucci during the January 28, 2004 Interview. In accordance with the suggestions made by the Examiners during that Interview, and the Interview Summary prepared at that time, Applicants submit the clarifying amendments to claims 14, 16 and 17 as set forth herein and respectfully submit that these claims are in condition for allowance.

Amended Claims 1 through 17 were pending in this Application and were the subject of the Official Action of July 30, 2003.

Claims 1 through 13 and 15 are being cancelled herein, without prejudice, and will be pursued in a separate application. Applicants respectfully submit that remaining claims 14, 16 and 17 are patentable for the reasons set forth in the Remarks section of this paper. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance as to the three remaining claims in this application, so that an early patent may be issued and a continuation application may be filed for the claims being cancelled without prejudice herein.